

Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 AGR-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 ITC-01 SP-02 L-03 H-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9746
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, SNAR, BL

SUBJ: GOB REQUEST FOR REVISED COFFEE QUOTAS

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM GOB MINISTER OF INDUSTRY & COMMERCE ASKING FOR USG SUPPORT IN OBTAINING INCREASED BOLIVIAN QUOTA IN INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT DUE TO INCREASING BOLIVIAN PRODUCTION AND PROSPECTS FOR EVEN GREATER PRODUCTION AS A RESULT OF COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM MINISTRY EXPECTS EXPORTABLE COFFEE CROP TO EXCEED BOLIVIA'S ASSIGNED QUOTA IN CROP YEAR 1976/77 AND AFTERWARD.

2. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY, UNDER CURRENT INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT, BOLIVIA ASSIGNED QUOTA OF 73,000 SACKS WITH MAXIMUM INCREMENT OF 10 PERCENT OR 7,300 ADDITIONAL SACKS FOR TOTAL 80,300. BOLIVIA EXPORTED 76,477 SACKS IN 1974/75 CROP YEAR AND ESTIMATES WILL BE IN POSITION TO EXPORT 91,000 SACKS IN CROP YEAR 1976/77. AN INCREASE TO 100,000 SACKS EXPECTED IN 1978/79, WHEN QUOTA WILL REACH 87,600, CREATING SIZEABLE EXCESS EXPORT CROP.

3. ACTION REQUESTED:

(A) EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT AT APPROPRIATE TIME IN ICA FOR GOB REQUEST. BOLIVIA'S INCREASING

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COFFEE PRODUCTION IS ONE BRIGHT SPOT IN AN OTHERWISE DIFFICULT

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION.

(B) WHILE US-SUPPORTED COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION EFFORT IS STILL IN PRELIMINARY STUDY STAGES, COFFEE IS ONE OF PRIME SUBSTITUTE CROPS UNDER CONSIDERATION. IN VIEW OF DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MARKETABILITY OF COFFEE AND COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION EFFORT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT VIEWS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON POTENTIAL FOR ADEQUATE INCREASE IN ITC QUOTA OR OTHER MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS TO SUPPORT COFFEE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR BOLIVIAN COCA PRODUCTION.

(C) GUIDANCE ON RESPONSE TO GOB IS REQUESTED.

STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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